country, if so, the steps Government propose to overcome these problems?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) The foreign tourist arrivals upto October 1992 and during the previous years since 1986 except during 1990 and 1991 have exceeded the targets. The decline in tourist arrivals during 1990 and 1991 was due to various international and internal problems including the Gulf War.

(b) The endeavour of the Government is to improve the tourism amenities in the country with the co-operation of State Government and private sector.

(c) The availability of adequate infrastructure is a bottleneck in the growth of tourism in the country. However, the Central Government gives financial assistance to State Governments for augmenting tourism infrastructure based upon specific projects, their *inter-se* priority and the availability of funds.

Conversion of palaces into hotels

28. SHRI JAGIR SINGH DARD: DR. ABRAR AHMED:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government are negotiating with some former maharajas of princely states to convert their palaces into hotels;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what are the results achieved in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c) A new category of 'Heritage Hotels' has been introduced to cover functioning hotels in palaces, castles, havelics, forts, etc. built prior to 1950. Guidelines for approval at project stage for conversion of heritage properties into hotels have also been formulated to provide additional room capacity for tourists and to preserve these landmarks of our heritage. So far 17 Heritage hotels providing 568 rooms have been approved.

Summer Saver Plan for tourists

29. SHRI JAGIR SINGH DARD:
DR. ABRAR AHMED:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any summer saver plan with discount in air fare and hotel tariffs to attract foreign tourists; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir. A Summer Saver Plan was offered to foreign tourists jointly by Air India, Indian Airlines and the hotel industry for the period from 1 Apr.—30 Sep. 92

(b) Air India offered 30% to 40% discount while Indian Airlines offered 15% on US$ fare. ITDC offered various discounts going upto 60% on its selective hotels. Some private hotels also offered discounts ranging between 40 and 50%.

Expansion of Calicut Airport

30. SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for the expansion of the Calicut airport;

(b) if so, what arc the details thereof;

(c) whether 'AIR INDIA' is considering a proposal to start flights of Gulf countries from Calicut; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The National Airports Authority has plans to construct a separate new International Terminal suitable for handling 250 outgoing and 250 incoming passengers, at an estimated cost of Rs. 613 lakhs. The architect has been appointed and the drawings have been

approved. The work is likely to commence by the end of March, 1992.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. At present, due to shorter runway at Calicut airport, the Air India with its present fleet of aircraft can not operate flights to Gulf.

Expansion of Trivandrum Airport

31. SHRI E. BALANANDAN: SHRI M.A. BABY

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION & TOURISM be pleased to
state:

(a) whether any project for the expansion of the Trivandrum International Airport is envisaged;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether any foreign airlines has approached Government with a proposal to start international service from/to Trivandrum; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof and what is the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Runway extension and development of new terminal complex, modification of International Cargo Complex, air-conditioning of domestic arrival hall and security hold area, improvement of runway lighting system, provision of approach lighting system are envisaged for development of Trivandrum airport.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Docs not arise.

Construction of Alternate Runway at Goa Airport

32. SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES: WiU the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the runway of Goa airport is used partially as road by Navy at two points despite ban on such crossing;

(b) whether N.A.A. has offered Rs. 21 lakhs to construct an alternate road, thus avoiding the runway; and

(c) if so, what is the reaction of Navel authority to this proposal?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) The road crosses the runway at two places but there is no ban on such crossings as these arc controlled by traffic lights to ensure flight safety.

(b) The National Airports Authority has offered Rs. 25 lakhs to construct an alternate road, at different site; this will however not substitute the road that crosses the runway.

(c) The offer is yet to be accepted by the Naval authorities.

आठवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना अवधि के दौरान पर्यटन का विकास

33. श्री अजीत जोगी:
श्री विट्ठलराव माधवराव जाधव:

क्या नागर विमानन और पर्यटन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) आठवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना अवधि के दौरान पर्यटन को बढ़ावा देने के लिए अपनाई जाने वाली नीतियों का ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ख) क्या इस संबंध में प्रत्येक राज्य/संघ राज्य क्षेत्र के लिए कोई पर्यटन योजना तैयार की गई है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है, तथा विकसित की जाने वाली योजनाओं के नाम क्या-क्या हैं, उन पर लगभग कितनी लागत आयेगी और उनमें केन्द्र तथा राज्यों का हिस्सा कितना-कितना होगा?